

ALMAGEST

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Middle East conference Iran, Islam discusses



by Ellen Davis

The politics of Middle East faith and fuel — namely Islam and oil — was the main topic April 18 at the conference in the University Center. Five Middle East experts spoke at the conference and offered their views on the current events in the Middle East.

Speakers were: Professor Riffat Hassan of the department of religious studies of the University of Louisville; Professor Bernard Schecterman of the department of politics of the University of Miami; Professor Fred Gottheil of the department of economics of the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana; Professor Roy Mersky of the law school of the University of Texas at Austin; and Steve Grummon of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the U.S. State Department.

The morning session on the politics of faith featured Hassan and Schecterman, while the later panel was composed of Gottheil and Grummon. Mersky chaired both sessions in the UC Theater.

Following lunch, the panel met together in the Caddo-Bossier Room of the University Center for an open round table discussion. At this meeting, the participants answered questions about the fall of the shah and the present situation in Iran.

"I THINK a pattern is clearly emerging with the shah that we were pressing him against the wall to the point where his own people perceived from one end of the pavilion to the other that he was vulnerable," Schecterman said, discussing the impact of human rights on the shah's control of Iran. "For example, it's one thing to say that we really didn't push him on human rights," he said, but the shah was compelled to move in the direction of such things as elections.

Grummon disagreed. He cited the shah's abolishment of the two-party system in 1975. "We never attempted from the day he did that to force him to change that. I'm just not sure we were pushing him in terms of liberalization . . . It just wasn't there. I don't know of any evidence that indicates Ambassador Sullivan went in to the shah . . . and said, 'We think you should reinstitute the two-party system,'" he said.

Grummon said he didn't feel human rights undercut the shah, but that corruption in the government did.

Continuing on the subject of human rights, Gottheil said, "The shah has to stand in line in violations of human rights. We are very selective . . . We overlook our friends and condemn our enemies." He also said he feels we are using human rights for "public consumption."

HE CITED Mexico as an example of an American ally in violation of human rights. "The Mexican government shot 200 students, and their families to this day don't know where they are buried. But we'll never bring it up," Gottheil said. What really matters is our perception of how important that country is, not their record on human rights, he said.

Was the revolution in Iran a revival of Islam or the result of social, economic and political conflicts within the system?

"Khomeini clearly sees it as a revival and restoration of Islamic values, Islamic culture," said Grummon. However, others see it in a different light. They see it as "the first stage of a much broader revolution, a massive socio-economic revolution which is essentially secular in base," he continued. The main question being debated in Iran now is "What kind of revolution is this?"

Hassan, who recently visited

Iran with a group of about 500 journalists, said she feels it is not an Islamic revolution. The only sense in which it could be considered such is that the Koran, the sacred text of Islam, contains passages "advocating standing up in the face of oppression," she said.

She said, "Being religious goes against the grain of the Iranian people." Because of this she finds it strange the revolution has taken on a religious nature.

Hassan said she has several Iranian students and she has asked them "you say this is an Islamic movement; are you ready to pray five times a day?"

"If the individual Iranian isn't willing to live Islamically, how on earth can you have an Islamic revolution?" she asked. She sees the revolution as "an Iranian revolution" and as "a Shiite revolution," referring to 90 percent of Iranians being Shiites.

SCHECTERMAN mentioned that the pro-Soviet element in Iran is led by Khomeini's third son and a nephew, both graduates of a Moscow university. Hassan said she never heard the Soviets mentioned in Tehran when imperialism was being criticized. Schecterman also mentioned that he has heard Khomeini has, in addition to heart disease, leukemia.

The Palestine Liberation Organization was also a topic related to Iran. Hassan said the PLO is held up by the Iranians as a model. Grummon said he has noted unusual organization and experience among the militants holding the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. He said he "found it difficult to believe" they all came from theological school.

Schecterman said he has been told the Israeli government has connected several persons entering and leaving the occupied embassy to the PLO. He said it is believed that the PLO has supplied them with more than inspiration, but perhaps also explosives.

Who are the militants? Hassan and Grummon agreed that the students are a coalition of the extreme right and the left.

Hassan said the dozen women in the revolutionary guard escorting her group in Iran insisted that the women in the embassy — such as "Mary" — are not Muslims because no Muslim woman could spend months and months, day and night, with those men "because it's so contrary to Islamic culture." They maintained that the female militants have to be non-believers.

The conference was sponsored by Conferences and Institutes and the Artist and Lecturers Committee at LSUS, as well as the American Professors for Peace in the Middle East. Hosting the event were political science professors Dr. Norman Provizer and Dr. Marvin Stottlemire.



Choir performance demonstrates talent

by Ellen Davis

The University Chorus demonstrated its fine talent during its spring concert April 23. The chorus, under the direction of Norma Jean Locke, presented what she called "a long, ambitious program," which was well-received by the audience.

The highlight of the concert was the section of popular songs, which included two Barry Manilow hits, "Daybreak" and "Weekend in New England." Also included were "The Way We Were," "Tomorrow," from the Broadway musical "Annie," and "Take Me Home, Country Roads." "Joy to the World," a Three Dog Night hit from the 1970s, was sung as an encore, and the audience clapped along with the music.

The chorus was accompanied by pianist Nancy Griswold. Flutist Carlie White accompanied on "Scarborough Fair — Canticle" and "Shenandoah." Randy Festervand accompanied "Take Me Home, Country Roads" on

guitar, and sang solo on "Weekend in New England."

Other soloists were Marcey Schaller on "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair," and Gabe Sims on "Ol' Man River."

The 33-person chorus also sang folk and classical songs during the hour-long concert, which was repeated April 24 before the Awards Banquet. Among the folk songs, "Little Innocent Lamb" was one of the audience's favorites, as was "American Trilogy," which included "Dixie."

"The Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly" was a silly song, but fast, lively and humorous.

Classical songs were "Sing We and Chant It," "Ave Verum Corpus," "What If I Never Speed" and "Sure on This Shining Night."

The members of the chorus sang well and clearly. Also adding to the excellence of the performance was the new Yamaha six-foot studio grand piano recently acquired by the University.

Almagest staff announced

Staff members for the 1980 fall semester Almagest staff have been selected.

Several old staff members will be returning. LaTonya Turner, a senior journalism major and member of Alpha Sigma Omicron, will return as editor. Senior journalism major Ellen Davis, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and Alpha Sigma Omicron, will serve another semester as assistant editor. Feature editor is Ruth Stout, senior journalism major and a member of Alpha Sigma Omicron. Cathy Baranik, junior journalism major, will be news editor. Ken Martin, junior journalism major, will be returning as photo editor. Copy editor will be Donna O'Neal, a junior journalism major and a member of Alpha Sigma Omicron.

Editorial assistant is Barbara Wittman, senior journalism major and member of Alpha Sigma Omicron. Returning as business manager is Bryan Germany, a sophomore journalism major and member of Phi Delta Theta. Jason Weimar, junior fine arts major, will return as cartoonist. Returning as a reporter will be

Deborah Evans, a junior journalism major.

New staff members are Phillip Martin, senior general studies major, who will join the staff as contributing editor, and Karen Rosengrant, freshman journalism major, who will be a reporter.

AP awards Almagest high rating

The Almagest has received first class honor rating from the Associated Collegiate Press for newspapers from the 1979 spring semester. It was also awarded marks of distinction on coverage and content, and writing and editing.

Judge Michael Sesslu wrote: "The Almagest is certainly a super student paper! I've enjoyed reading the issues and judging them — that's not what I can say about every paper! Good talents; good dedication. Best wishes to one of the best!"

At the time the papers were written, Cyndy Hill was editor-in-chief.

Senior has the 'parting shot'

It is a long-standing tradition that the graduating senior members of the Almagest staff get the last editorial of the year for "parting shots." Generally, this editorial takes the form of an evaluation of LSUS and its future.

But I've already evaluated LSUS at a colloquium this semester, and I feel no real need to repeat here what I said there. So allow me a brief examination of some of the controversial issues of the last couple of years.

First, let's look at the Student Government Association. I want to begin by saying that I have never had any personal resentment toward the SGA (mild annoyance, to be sure, but never resentment). Any vendettas on my part against the SGA have been invented by people looking for a scapegoat. What we of the staff have tried to do is simply to tell the students the truth. Some people don't like that.

The SGA, after all, has no problems that any other organization at LSUS doesn't have. They must deal with a maddeningly apathetic student body, a campus with no real student life and an administration tied down by the lack of a chancellor. So why pick on the SGA? For one thing, other organizations on campus don't soak up thousands of dollars of student fees and produce nothing. Where does the money go? Salaries, mainly, and office supplies, trips to Baton Rouge, and the like.

Furthermore, I really don't think the SGA will change now that new officers have been elected. The real problems of the SGA will remain. Senators still won't keep their office hours, the administration will still be reluctant to do anything and the students will still be unresponsive to the pleas of SGA members to get involved.

There is only one way to make the SGA a viable campus organization: the students must get involved. Change can't start within the current structure of the organization, but it can start from the outside. Demand a strict accounting of what the SGA is doing with your money. Ask to know what the Senators and officers are doing to serve you. They are supposed to be your representatives. Make them represent

you!

A related area that needs discussion is the treatment of the SGA in the Almagest. Anyone who is even a casual reader of the paper knows that the SGA has criticized us severely for certain editorial stands we have taken. This is to be expected, but what we said did not justify the violent reaction from the SGA. We were simply stating facts and making suggestions, and we never said anything libelous.

If the LSUS SGA thinks they have been treated unfairly by the Almagest, they should look at a copy of the Daily Reveille (LSU-BR) or the Nicholls Worth (Nicholls State). Those papers constantly use demeaning, defamatory words to describe SGA meetings and members. Face it folks, the SGA at LSUS has gotten pretty good treatment. pretty good treatment.

But possibly the greatest problem that I have personally encountered while on the Almagest staff is the students' reluctance to read the paper carefully enough. Almost every critical remark that has been written about the Almagest stemmed, at least in part, from the fact that the writer didn't read the offending article closely enough to

see what it really said. Many people bring a preconceived attitude to their reading of the paper. They don't read what the paper says so much as they read into it what they want it to say. All I can recommend is to look carefully at the arguments presented by both sides in any controversy. Ask questions. Don't take anyone's word on faith. These are issues that affect you. Be informed.

The Almagest has changed in the last year. Controversy has begun to develop, and widely differing points of view have found their way into the pages of the paper. This is good. We have tried our best to develop a policy of bringing up controversial issues instead of avoiding them and allowing all sides to present their views. We think the students of LSUS are smart enough to read different views and decide which ones they will adopt.

I'm going to miss LSUS, and I'm going to miss the opportunity that I've had to express myself in this paper. The Almagest is designed to inform you, entertain you and even to make you mad once in a while. I hope it continues to be the voice of the students at LSUS.

Joey Tabarlet

Churches dominate city

If heaven is jam-packed with Shreveporters, it's little wonder. After all, the people of this city can do no wrong — the Baptist community sees to that. We simply aren't given the opportunity to "sin." Although separation of church and state is the law, it isn't the rule here. Shreveport is virtually governed by unelected, self-appointed and self-serving church leaders.

Granted, they have the best of intentions — saving the townspeople from the gates of hell is certainly a noble aspiration. But their reasoning is erroneous. The church leaders feel justified in policing the city because they assume (rather grandly) that everyone thinks the same way they do and regards the same things as being wicked and evil.

Student forum

A city the size of Shreveport, however, consists of a very diverse population. The people don't all look the same, they don't all dress the same, they don't all live the same way; so why is it the church leaders are convinced the people all think the same? And not only do they assume we all think alike, but that we all agree with them, and that because we agree with them, they should make the rules for us all. The assumption is ludicrous, to say the very least.

What is even more ludicrous is that Shreveporters allow this to go on. Despite the economic effects it has on all of us, we let them decide where to put the racetrack. And despite our

First Amendment rights, we let them decide which movies will be shown here and which ones are not fit for us to see. It will be interesting to note how long the Bossier Medical Suite (better known as the abortion clinic) can last in this area, despite having the law on its side.

It seems there are two opposing forces at work here, and it's quite obvious which one is winning. There are those of us who would have Shreveport grow and progress, attracting new businesses and people from all over the country, resulting in a prosperous, well-rounded city.

Then there are the winners. These are the folks who are determined to maintain the status quo, rejecting all new and progressive ideas, rejecting all economic advancement except that which goes directly into their collection plates, resulting in a stagnant small town, 20 years behind the rest of the state, to say nothing of the rest of the country. And they wonder why south Louisiana attracts all the new industry and gets all the state funds. It's because South Louisianians use them to benefit their cities, not just their churches.

Churches certainly have their place in Shreveport, but that's all they should have — their place. When they attempt to take the place of the government, when they try to be policeman, judge and jury for the rest of us, then they're making a mistake, they're out of line. But, until the people of this town stand up for their rights and voice their opinions to elected policymakers, Shreveport will continue to be ruled from the pulpit. See you in heaven.

Sharon Robinson

Almagest

LaTonya Turner	Editor-in-Chief
Ellen Davis	Assistant Editor
Sandy Malone	Feature Editor
Joey Tabarlet	News Editor
Ken Martin	Photo Editor
Ruth Stout	Copy Editor
Cathy Baranik	Editorial Assistant
Sarita Felan	Photographer
Donna O'Neal	Photographer
Marguerite Plummer	Contributing Editor
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Bryan Germany	Business Manager
Barbara Wittman	Ass't Business Manager
Jason Weimar	Cartoonist

Editorial Board: La Tonya Turner, Ellen Davis, Joey Tabarlet, Ruth Stout, Deborah Evans.

All editorial views expressed herein are the opinion of the writer and should not be construed to represent administrative policy. The purpose of the Almagest is to inform the students and faculty of news concerning LSUS.

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Almagest welcomes contributions from readers but reserves the right to edit correspondence received and reject any and all contributions. Contributions become the property of the Almagest.

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LETTERS

Readers:

First of all, we would like to thank the people who elected us. A lot of people became interested and involved during the election. We hope that this involvement will keep up throughout the year. Let us point out that student participation within the SGA has been weak in the past. With more and better student representation, we can make the SGA a strong and solid organization. The SGA has always had the potential, it's just that not enough people participated in it. A lot of people have called down the SGA, but they have never taken action to improve it. So if you have a gripe

about the SGA, why don't you get involved in it? a handful of people cannot make it work. That has been proven in the past. It is going to take the representation of the whole student body.

We would like for students to realize that there is more to LSUS than just going to class and then leaving. We plan to make LSUS known not only for its academic excellence, but also for its other activities. Tim Quattrone, an active member of the Program Council, has informed us that the Program Council has many new and exciting events scheduled for next year. He stated that the

Program Council is always open for new ideas. So is the SGA. Tim pointed out that the Program Council serves to fulfill the social needs of the students and hopes to see the Program Council, the SGA and the other school organizations work together. In order to progress forward, all of the different organizations need to work with each other, not against each other.

We are working towards unity of the administration, faculty, student organizations and, most importantly, the student body. With the transition from the old to the new, past problems will be left behind. The SGA needs to catch up and keep in step with the constant growth and improvement of this University. With more unity and more people involved, the SGA can become an organization the students can be proud of.

David Finck
Calvin Sears

Take a chance on a Chance?

by Ruth Stout

"Rumor travels faster, but it don't stay put as long as truth," American humorist, Will Rogers, said. The evidence to support this was seen when word began circulating throughout Bronson Hall that Dr. Shelby F. Thames of the University of Southern Mississippi was the "primary selectee" for chancellor of LSUS.

Most members of the Chancellor Search Committee contacted were not able either to confirm or to deny the rumor because they are not free to reveal the names of the

candidates being considered. All communication on such matters is supposed to come from LSU System President Martin Woodin or from Fabia Thomas, registrar and assistant to the chancellor. Thomas was unavailable for comment.

However, one committee member said the rumor was not true, and another member said that Thames had been interviewed, but that he is not a prime candidate. In fact, this committee member said, there is no primary selectee at this time.

MBA program a success

The first student of the masters of business administration (MBA) program will graduate this spring, along with 64 students from the college of business, according to the dean of the college business administration.

Dr. Don C. Wilcox said that the first year of the MBA program was a "resounding success."

"As a result of the MBA program, we had an increase in enrollment of about 15 percent,"

Wilcox said.

Wilcox said the MBA program is offered to any graduate student. Its purpose is to give the non-business major a good working knowledge of the business field and to give the business major that extra training that is required as he moves up the management ladder, he said.

Wilcox said the college is receiving new MBA applications for the fall semester and expects a larger and better quality program.

46 honored with awards

by Ruth Stout

During the 4th Annual Special Recognition Awards Convocation held Thursday, 7:30 p.m., three Almagest staff members were honored with special Almagest awards: Ellen Davis, 183 Bruce Ave., Journalism, received the award for Best Feature Writer; LaTonya Turner, Orleans Square Apts. II, Journalism, received the Best News Writer Award and the Award for Most Dedicated Staff Member; and Joey Tabarlet, 2022 Holly Oak Dr., Speech, received the award for Most Versatile Staff Member.

In the 9th Annual Awards Convocation held Thursday, 12:30 p.m., 46 students received awards.

Engraved plaques for outstanding contributions in 27 areas were presented to the following students:

Shreveport — John W. Lyons, 222 Suzanne Drive, Geography; Ruth Kunding, 8510 Creswell Road, General Studies; Michael Oliva, 531 Kirby Street, English; Don Greer, 234 Rossiter, Economics; Rita Norris, 10013 Saratoga, Accounting; Kathleen B. Klibert, 9232 Blom Blvd., Computer Science; Julie Fischer, 8501 Millicent Way, Chemistry; Clara Hunton, 9529 Chelsea Drive, Secondary

Education; Sheri H. Gault, 2849 Alkay, Elementary - Secondary Education; Linda M. Snyder, 7800 Youree Drive, Fine Arts; Joseph O. Tabarlet, 2022 Holly Oak Drive, Speech; Janet L. Morehouse, Allied Health; Sharon L. Marrs, 1820 East Kings Hwy., Biological Sciences; and Rebecca D. Turley, 503 S. Dresden, Mathematics; Bossier City — Teresa D. Spoor, 1331 Violet Ave., Sociology; Vicki Edison, 1171 Dudley Lane, General Studies; Marika Lesiw, 400 John Wesley, Foreign Languages; Peggy Barteet, 1509 James Street, Special Education; and John F. Todd, 1408 La Don Dr., Psychology.

Mooringsport — Wesley McGee, 303 Howard St., Political Science.

Rodessa — Cynthia Sexton, General Business.

Coushatta — Kimberly Wood, Office Administration.

Cullen — L. Edward Jenkins, Marketing.

Slidell — Theresa G. Vicroy, Science and Medicine.

Keithville — Marguerite R. Plummer, Journalism.

Stonewall — Betty S. Gilmer, Master of Education.

Other awards were presented to the following students:

Shreveport — Cheryl B.

Hollowell, The Exchange Club Associate in Criminal Justice Award; Nancy Davis, 3031 Samford, H.J. Sachs Scholarship; Michael Soliva, 531 Kirby, H. J. Sachs Scholarship; Brenda L. Sills, 438 Missouri Ave., Bingham - Willamette Scholarship; James C. Howell Jr., 639 Kingstowne Place, National Association of Accountants Award; Timothy R. Durr, 600 Irving Bluff Road, The Traffic and Transportation Club Scholarship; Iris L. Knowles, 1627 Woodrow Street, Cole, Evans & Peterson Senior Accounting Scholarship; Charles M. Stripling Jr., 10200 Youree Dr., The Selber Brothers Mutual Benefit Club Scholarship; and Sarah C. Emanuel, 417 Sandefur, The Accounting Faculty Award.

Bossier City — Teresa Spoor, 1331 Violet Ave., Outstanding Upperclassman in the Social Sciences; Pamela J. Claborn, 2570 Broadway, Wall Street Journal Award, and Alicia McWhorter, 2536 Hoyer St., The Exchange Club Bachelor of Criminal Justice Award.

Vivian — Nona Rochelle, Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants Award.

Ringgold — Barbara M. Batchelor, Bossier Quota Club Scholarship.

Rodessa — Cynthia L. Sexton, Melton Truck Lines Scholarship.

Keithville — Pamela S. Richardson, National Secretaries Association Scholarship.

Haughton — William V. Foss, The Sigma Delta Chi Journalism Award; and Terry L. Lynch, the Selber Brothers Mutual Benefit Club Scholarship in Office Administration.

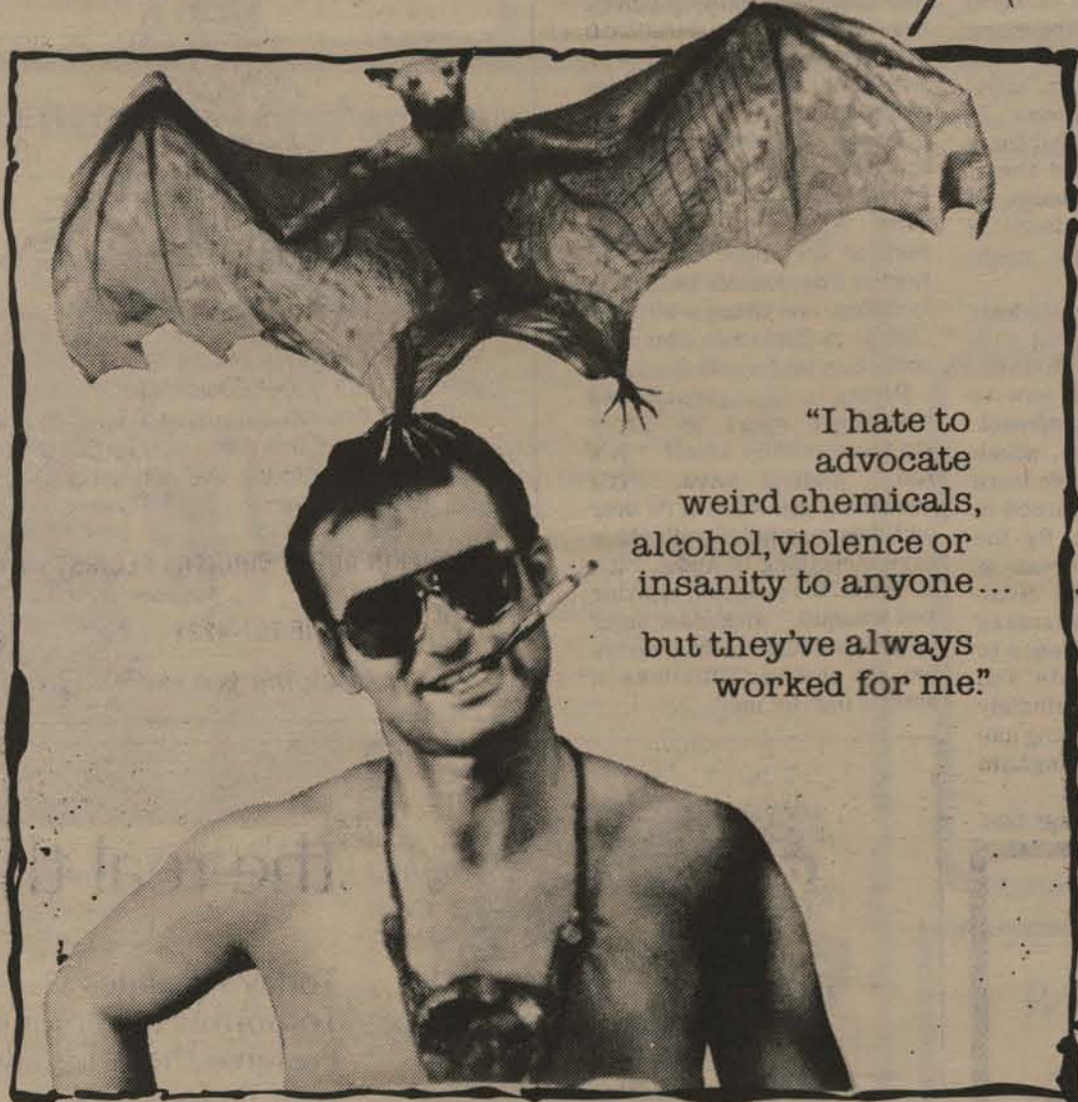
Oil City — Pamela A. Trimble, Cole, Evans & Peterson Junior Accounting Scholarship.

Coushatta — Kimberly J. Wood, National Collegiate Association for Secretaries (NCAS) Chapter Scholarship.

Other awards presented in the Special Recognition Awards Convocation were: the Interest and Participation Award from the Alumni Association; Appreciation Awards for the Association for Computing Machinery; the Biology Club Service Award; the Neida Dilworth Award from Delta Delta Delta; the Outstanding Member Award, the Friend of the Fraternity Award and the Outstanding New Member Award from Delta Omicron Mu; Guy's Flag Football, Basketball, and Softball Awards, Girl's Powderpuff Football, Tennis and Pool Awards from Intramural Sports; Outstanding Service Award from the LSU Foundation; Service Award from the Psychology Club; Speech Pathology Scholarship from the Quota Club of Bossier; Poetry and Prose Awards from Spectra; Member of the Year Award from the Student Government Association; Outstanding Program of the Year Award from the University Program Council; Zeta Lady Award from Zeta Tau Alpha; and the 1980 Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, going to: Peggy P. Barteet; Pamela J. Claborn; John H. Finck; Verne Foss; Nancy Jane Griswold; Edward L. Jenkins; Kenneth D. Jones; Susan L. Maheux; Sharon L. Marrs; Richard C. Morrison; Thomas R. Olmsted; Marguerite Reynolds Plummer; Kim Loraine Purdy; Joseph Tabarlet; Rebecca Dianne Turley; Theresa G. Vicroy; and William D. Wainwright IV.

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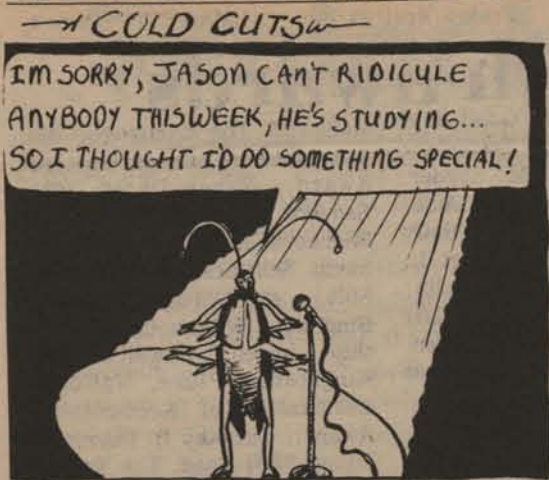
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Among LSUS students Why rise in scuba divers?

by Deborah Evans

Tranquility, solitude, peace, unusual creatures and a variety of other things await those who venture beneath the surface of the water. Whether in a Louisiana lake or off the coast of Florida, many LSUS students are discovering the beauty of the underwater world as scuba divers.

Scuba diving is a sport that has existed for a long time but has enjoyed increased popularity in the last few years. S-c-u-b-a stands for "self-contained underwater breathing apparatus." It involves the use of air tanks, buoyancy compensating devices, weights, protective wet suits and other equipment to enable a person to remain underwater for extended periods of time.

The tranquility of the underwater world, the interesting aquatic plant and animal life, the different feeling experienced while diving and the fact that you don't have to be a super athlete to dive were all reasons LSUS students cited as to why they enjoy diving. "The first dive is just something you don't ever forget," Tony Birmingham, junior computer science major, said.

LSUS STUDENTS became interested in diving in a variety of ways. Alain Audet, nighttime computer science student, started snorkeling at an early age and then became interested in diving. Snorkeling differs from scuba in that snorkeling involves lying on the surface and breathing through a tube called a snorkel. Scuba involves going underwater with the use of air tanks and other equipment.

Birmingham and Lynn Cattell, a junior majoring in pre-med, both became interested in diving while working as lifeguards. Cattell was first exposed to scuba equipment when she used it to clean the pool. Tony Alexander,

a freshman marine biology major, says he became interested in diving as a child when he used to watch the old Lloyd Bridges series "Sea Hunt."

LOTS OF semi-humorous things can happen to a diver, such as getting stuck in a tight wet suit, being caught by a fisherman, accidentally running head first into a tree and losing your mask while night diving and being harassed by a tiny bass that thinks he's a great white shark, just to name a few.

However, diving definitely has its serious side. No one should attempt scuba diving without first taking a properly sanctioned course.

Student activities

A course in scuba diving includes both classroom and water sessions. In the classroom, students learn about the effects of increased pressure on the body as a result of being underwater. There are many diving-related diseases such as the bends, air embolism, nitrogen narcosis and squeezes. In class, students learn what these are and how to avoid them. Without some knowledge of physics and physiology, a beautiful experience could become a disaster.

DURING the course, students also learn about coping with oceanographic conditions, marine life and also how to select and care for equipment. In the water sessions, which begin in the pool, students learn to put what they've learned in the classroom to use. By the time they enter the ocean or lake for their check-out dives, they have the necessary knowledge and experience to make their diving safe and enjoyable. "There's definitely more to it than just jumping into the water," Birmingham admits.

There were a few things that

bothered LSUS divers, like water skiers who disregarded the dive flags set out to mark the areas in which people are diving. Some people bring their boats too near, which is extremely dangerous. Another pet peeve of some was the equipment because on land it is extremely bulky and heavy. It is also rather expensive.

ALL AGREED however, that the advantages outweighed the disadvantages. Jerry Smith, a senior in pre-med, said that diving trips are always fun even before one gets in the water. "I like salt water diving over fresh water diving," he said, "because of the visibility and the different fish." LSUS students Sharon Marrs and Tom Bittick experienced this when they went to Florida to dive during spring break.

Those who dive in the Ark-La-Tex usually dive in Lake Ouachita, near Hot Springs, Ark., or Lake Kepler, Bistineau, the Sibley gravel pits or other such places. Visibility is limited but it doesn't stop them from spear fishing, going on treasure hunts or other underwater activities.

Those interested in taking scuba lessons can take them from the local YMCA, Adventure Sports in Shreveport or the Aqua Center in Bossier City. Bossier Community College and Georgia Military College at Barksdale also offer scuba courses for college credit.

Diving is an enjoyable and rewarding sport as LSUS students readily admit. "It's fun," Cattell says. "It's something you want to do over and over again," Birmingham says. According to Audet, "It's different. It's peaceful, relaxing and tranquil." Alexander sums up the peaceful feeling divers get by saying, "It's like a natural high for me."

Like 'Cuckoo's Nest'

'The Fifth Floor'

by Karen Rosengrant
Special to the Almagest

The downfall of the movie, "The Fifth Floor," is that it is too similar to "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

The only real difference between the two is that the main character in "The Fifth Floor" is a young woman, played by Dianne Hull. Therefore, it is really a kind of female version of "Cuckoo's Nest." The only new point that is brought out about mental hospitals is that mental patients are often sexually abused. Otherwise, "The Fifth Floor" closely follows the outline of "Cuckoo's Nest."

"The Fifth Floor," however, is somewhat more realistic than "Cuckoo's Nest" because it does not depict shock therapy as a brain-damaging treatment.

IN THIS movie, the main character, Kelly, is accidentally poisoned by someone and is then placed on the psychiatric ward in a hospital for 3-day observation. Although Kelly did not poison herself, the doctors suspect she did and, therefore, want to insure she will not try it again.

Like McMurphy in "Cuckoo's Nest," Kelly soon discovers

that the patients are being treated poorly and tries to bring a little happiness into their lives.

THE NURSE Ratchet character in "The Fifth Floor" is an attendant played by Bo Hopkins. Hopkins takes Ratchet's mental abuse of the patients a step further by physically abusing the female patients.



Nevertheless, several of the actors give good performances in "The Fifth Floor." Hopkins is very convincing as the cruel attendant. Hull, on the other hand, sympathetically portrays the frustrated and terrified Kelly.

"The Fifth Floor," based on a true story, is now showing at Joy Cinema Six and Eastgate Cinema Four. The movie is rated R.

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Greek Beat

PHI DELTA THETA — La Grande Fete was quite an experience. We would like to thank the people who showed up. There were approximately 1,800 people. The 2,500 pounds of crawfish went in an hour. A total of 59 kegs of beer were consumed. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Strand Corporation.

ZETA TAU ALPHA — The Eta Omega chapter team won its game last Sunday by forfeit.

A field consultant will visit May 6-8, so Zetas should be available to meet with her during the visit.

The retreat will be May 16, 17 and 18.

At last Thursday's awards ceremony, Zeta Tau Alpha received the Powderpuff football award.

Symphony to present 'Koanga,' April 25, 27

"Koanga," an opera in three acts by Frederick Delius, will be presented by the Shreveport Symphony today at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Shreveport Civic Theatre.

"Koanga" is based on George Cable's book "The Grandissimes," which portrays a prominent New Orleans family on a Louisiana plantation. It involves the mysticism which represents African

voodoo and culture, and links it dramatically to the black man's new environment of slavery in the South.

The performance, in English, will be the second performance of the opera in the United States this century.

Admission is by season ticket. Individual tickets are sold at the door, \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Call Symphony House, 869-2559, for further information.

LSUS STUDENTS

Are you looking for inexpensive entertainment this summer? The Shreveport Captains are offering a pass to all full-time students to all Captains' games for only \$10.

For information or to order your pass, call the Captains at 221-2114.

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ARMY ROTC.

LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO LEAD.

Unusual suspense, horror, action featured in books

by Marguerite Plummer
Special to the Almagest

"Every Man a King" by Anne Worboys is a thrilling story of romance and suspense set in the mysterious, awe-inspiring, sometimes "merciless" Sierra Nevadas of Spain.

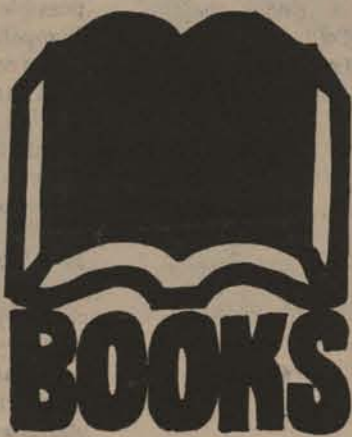
The author has done a superb job of research into the customs and temperament of the various peoples of Spain in the last few years of Franco's rule. And into the fabric of her story she has skillfully woven the variegated threads of political intrigue, the fragmentation of loyalties, the fluid tensions between the seekers of change and the resisters to change. Through it all, one gets a glimpse of the Spanish soul.

THE ROMANTIC and dangerous adventure begins when Suzanne Cole, a young Englishwoman, reads the letter left for her by Antonia, her stepmother, who, along with Suzanne's father, was killed in an auto crash. Her stepmother had been married to Carlos Lazaro, Le Comde de Merito, and there was a son who remained behind when Antonia ran away from the palace that had become her prison. In the letter she asks Suzanne to try to find her son.

Suzanne travels alone to Spain and soon finds herself caught up in the diabolical scheme of the usurper count, Ernesto Lazaro, who had "saved" the old family's position politically by systematically arranging accidents for the dissidents within it. She soon

joins the list of intended victims as she discovers the well-guarded secret that Carlos Lazaro is still alive. Escaping death by inches becomes a way of life for her as the story unfolds backwards over 20 years.

SHE AND Felipe Lazaro, whom she discovers to be Antonia and Carlos' son and the



real Count de Merito's heir, become the hunters and the hunted in a horseback chase through the wild Sierra Nevadas as the plot moves to its climax.

"Every Man a King" has a happy ending for Suzanne and Felipe — a just ending for Ernesto, the usurper and murderer. The tale of family honor and political intrigue is made special by its spectacular setting in post-Civil War Spain. It's a well-written suspense thriller.

And, incidentally, a bouquet of American roses to the author for making the Americans in the story — an artist, his wife and three children — sympathetic, beautiful people. They endanger their own lives to befriend the heroine. No contemptuous treatment of Americans in this novel.

by Karen Rosengrant
Special to the Almagest

Many mysteries and horror stories have centered around gigantic, foreboding old houses

that seem to have a will of their own. Stephen King's "The Shining" is yet another of those thrillers, but it's not a usual suspense story. King's vivid description of the horrors this house holds throws the reader directly into the terror.

The book begins slowly as the author fills in the necessary details about the main characters, the Torrances. However, as the story progresses the tension mounts at a breathtaking speed.

THE EVIL house in "The Shining" is the Overlook, a resort hotel hidden in the Rocky Mountains. During the summer the Overlook is filled with rich and famous guests. During the winter, however, it is closed because of the treacherous weather.

The book tells of the nightmare the Torrance family encounters as caretakers of the Overlook during one winter.

THE FAMILY includes Jack Torrance, an ex-alcoholic, his wife, Wendy, and their unusual young son, Danny. Danny possesses a strange power called "the shining." This power enables him to conjure up the nightmarish incidents that have occurred through the years within the 110 seemingly empty rooms of the Overlook.

The only disappointment in "The Shining" is its ending. King gives the book a typical horror story ending which is disappointing after reading the book's frequent chilling surprises.

Nevertheless, "The Shining" is a definite spine-tingler that should be read by all suspense lovers with the recommendation that they read it during the daytime with their doors locked.

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Who is Bobby Deerfield

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Tonight — UC Theater, 2 & 7:30 p.m.
Admission \$1

Campus Briefs

Concert

The Wallace State Community College Jazz Show Band will present a concert today at noon in the University Center Theater. The 20-member band is currently on a tour of the West Coast and will be performing in Amarillo, Dallas, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Phoenix. Under the direction of Robert Bean, the band will include a combination of swing, pop, jazz and rock music on the program.

SGA officers

Winners of the recent SGA presidential and vice presidential election were David Finck and Calvin Sears, respectively. Both Finck and Sears are junior accounting majors and express their views in an open letter to students on page two of this paper.

Dr. Thompson

Dr. Alan Thompson, associate professor of history, recently presented a paper entitled "Political Issues in Mobile, Alabama During the 1850s" at the annual meeting of the Alabama Historical Association in Selma, Ala.

'People's Choice'

A student art exhibit opened Friday in the University Center Art Gallery. Kelly Mill was the winner of the "People's Choice Art Award" and received a \$50 prize, according to David Horner, assistant professor of fine arts.

'Couchon de Lait'

The LSUS Student Government Association is coordinating plans for a student and faculty end-of-semester "Couchon de Lait" tentatively scheduled for May 7, according to Keith Whitehead, SGA president.

The event will be held on the softball fields near the Library Building and will include a pig roast, kegs of beer and a real good time, Whitehead said.

Whitehead said many campus organizations are helping with plans for the bash but more volunteers are needed. And, although these plans have not been finalized, Whitehead said he didn't expect any potential problems regarding their finalization.

For additional information contact the SGA office.

Photo winners

Students from communications 250, principles of photography, won six of the eight awards possible in the Holiday In Dixie Photographer's Competition. The group entered as a class.

The competition was divided into two categories of awards for black and white photography: Human Interest Photos and All Other. First through 4th place awards were given in each of these categories. Winners in the class group were: Steve Kincaid, 1st place, category one; Stan Shelton, 3rd place, category one; Steve Kincaid, 1st place, category two; John Santandrea, 2nd place, category two; Steve Kincaid, 3rd place, category two; and Marcia Chapman, 4th place, category two.

Kincaid, who won 1st place awards in both categories and the 3rd place award in category one, is a senior fine arts major.

Financial aid

Students planning to attend summer school may still apply for financial assistance, said Edgar Chase, director of student financial aid. The aid is available for regular students, but not for students attending LSUS only during the summer session.

Bookstore

The campus bookstore will buy books May 5-6 at one-half of a book's original price. A representative from Nebraska Books will also purchase books from students.

Caps and gowns for graduating seniors have arrived in the campus bookstore and may be picked up now.

Calendar

Friday, April 25

Concert — at noon in the UC Theater featuring the Wallace State Community College Jazz Show Band.

Movie — "Bobby Deerfield" at 2 and 7:30 in the UC Theater. Rated PG. Admission \$1.

Monday, April 28

Classes end at 10 p.m.

Tuesday, April 29

Study Day

Wednesday, April 30

Final examinations begin

Thursday, May 8

Final grades due in the registrar's office at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, May 14

Commencement

Dr. Wilcox

Dr. Don C. Wilcox, dean of the college of business administration, was recently named chairman of the Black Minority Business Task Force for the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce. The task force's purpose is to examine and help black businesses.

Fall rush

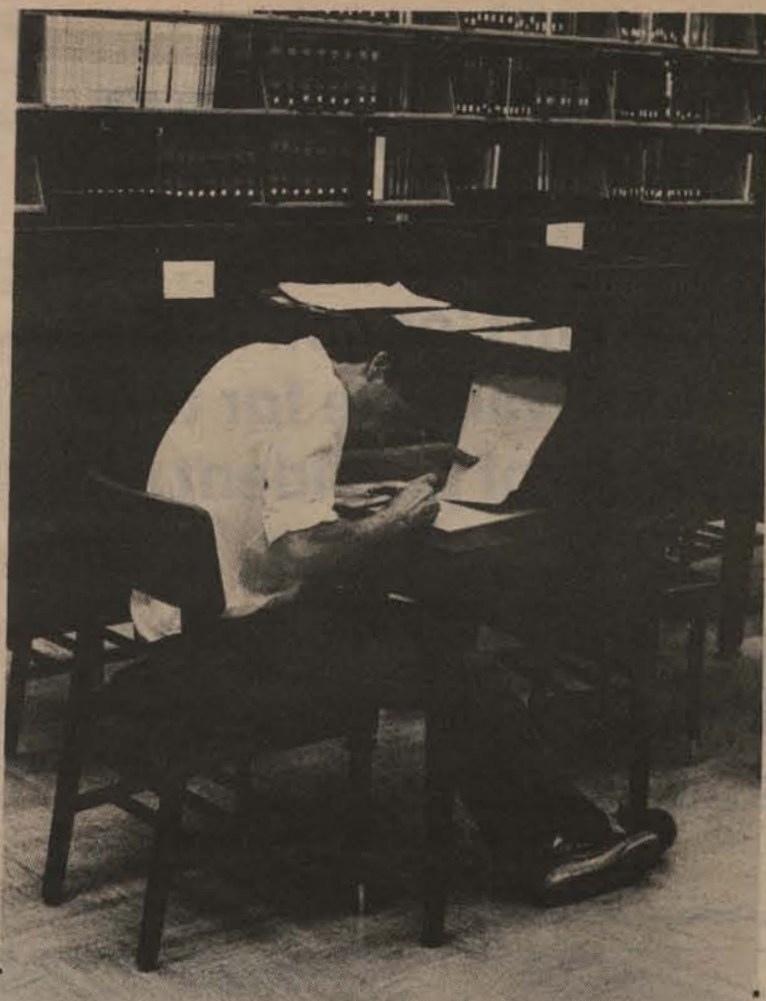
Any female student interested in fall rush, Aug. 17-22, should send her name, address, phone number and classification to: LSUS Panhellenic Association, 8515 Youree Dr., Shreveport, LA, 71115.

Dr. Kalinsky

Dr. Robert Kalinsky, associate professor of biology, recently published an article entitled "Notes on Louisiana Diatoms. I. Rare and Unusual Periphytic Diatoms in Cypress Bayou Reservoir, Bossier Parish, Louisiana" in the proceedings of the Louisiana Academy of Sciences. The paper is drawn from two and a half years of research and reports on 11 rare and unusual diatoms. He is currently working on another paper dealing with the evolution of diatoms.

Program

The Office of Conferences and Institutes is offering a "Rapid - Comprehension - Through - Effective - Reading" program to interested persons at a cost of \$35. Classes will meet May 8, 9, 12, 13 and 14 from 9 a.m.-noon. The program is directed by Pat Bates, director of the LSUS Writing Laboratory and assistant professor of English, and Nancy Sexton, assistant professor of English. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration in Bronson Hall, Room 123, is necessary.



Pressure's On



The pressure's on as the last day of class nears and finals begin . . . and everyone reacts differently.

To hear someone brag that they have whizzed through the semester without a problem could get them a round of applause, or, at this point, it might get them tarred and feathered. For most students it seems to be a time of cramming, catching up on late assignments and a last ditch attempt to bring the ole GPA up a point or two.

A stroll around campus resulted in photographic testimony of various approaches to preparing for D-day (no pun intended of course). A glance around the library found that

several students had been there quite a while. Books were piled up on the desk beside them and they were so involved in their thoughts that they were not even aware a photographer was around. Now that's serious!

Other students could be found lounging about and going about their last minute studies in a bit more relaxed atmosphere at the UC. Others seemed to have decided to let the high pressure of a hot game of poker take academic pressure off. It looked like the stakes were rather high there, too.

However you psych yourself up for finals, here's wishing you all a good GPA and a good summer.

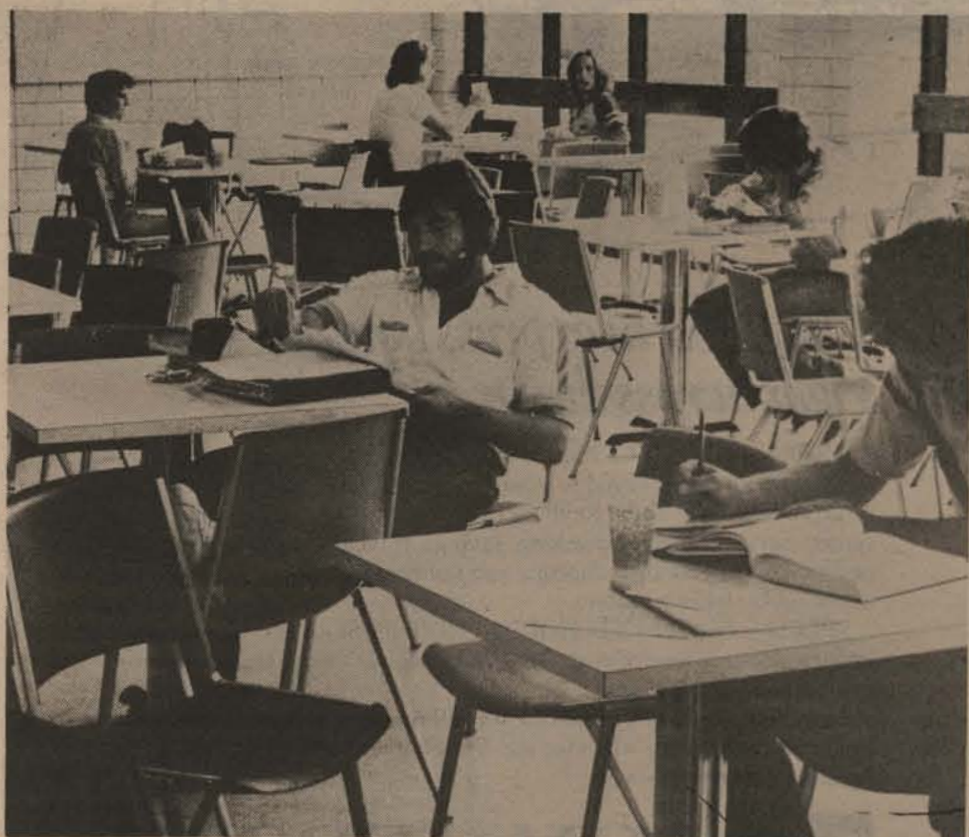
Story

and

photos

by

Sarita Felan



Extraordinary experiences project topic

by Clay Flournoy
Special to the Almagest

As part of the requirements for Dr. Robert Benefield's honors course on the nature of human consciousness, nine members of the class participated in a group project collecting data on extraordinary experiences of altered states of consciousness. About 69 subjects were interviewed concerning experiences ranging from religious to drug-induced.

The data collected were then categorized to show correlations, similarities and dissimilarities among the subjects and the experiences they described. Each member of the group also wrote a descriptive summary of the most interesting interview that he encountered.

The subject was asked to describe his life situation at the time, the exact circumstances at the moment of the experience, and to give as vivid a description as possible of the experience itself. The subjects themselves were categorized by sex, age, race, religious affiliation, education and occupation in an attempt to determine if those with common backgrounds or beliefs had experiences with common characteristics.

Almost all subjects reported feelings of peace, unity and harmony. These self-assurances came in the form of dreams, voices, visual hallucinations and, in one particular case, in the form of a human visitor the subject believed was an angel.

Self-knowledge and visual hallucinations were the two most commonly occurring characteristics.

Now that the information has been compiled and reviewed, the members of the projects are preparing a summary for the instructor and will then present their findings to the class in a round table discussion during

the last class meeting.

One student commented on the project, "It was really interesting. There are certain characteristics that kept recurring, such as light or glowing colors, or a feeling of peace and unity. But what surprised me the most was that so many people had, or felt that they'd had, extraordinary experiences and were eager to talk to us about them."

"When we started the project we were afraid we'd have trouble finding subjects," the student said. "As it turned out, almost everyone we approached was willing to be a subject because they felt they experienced a state of consciousness that few others had experienced. It turns out that a great many people have had these experiences, but they just don't talk openly about them."

Job Opening

The Program Council has an opening available for the position of president.

Apply in UC Room 231.
All applications must be submitted by May 6.

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